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Federal Communications Commission  
Wireline Competition Bureau  
Competition Policy Division  
Washington, DC 20554

DEC 03 2015

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I am writing to comment on the proposed discontinuation of calling card service by MCI, a service that my wife, Elaine Menke, and I have depended upon for more than two decades. Our account number with MCI is 6 ----- . The proposed discontinuation of MCI calling card service will cause us inconvenience in several ways. My wife is a PSAR ranger in the summer at the Grand Canyon National Park and is frequently at Phantom Ranch, the only accommodations other than camping at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. She uses the public telephone at Phantom Ranch to make calls to the Rim of the Grand Canyon and to me in Missouri. This public telephone requires the use of a calling card account in order to make calls. Cell phones do not connect at Phantom Ranch. I am a family physician and have on rare occasions made phone calls to patients from Phantom Ranch at Grand Canyon using the MCI calling card.

My wife and I have used the MCI calling card from public telephones in Death Valley NP where cell service is unavailable as well. We use the calling card to place calls to the United States when traveling in Europe or Australia as well.

To the best of my knowledge, there is no alternative way to place phone calls from areas such as Western National Parks that are not served by cell phone service other than the use of calling card service from MCI. The MCI calling card provides an important communication link for our family when one or more of us are in remote locations not serviced by cell phones.

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DEC 01 2015  
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